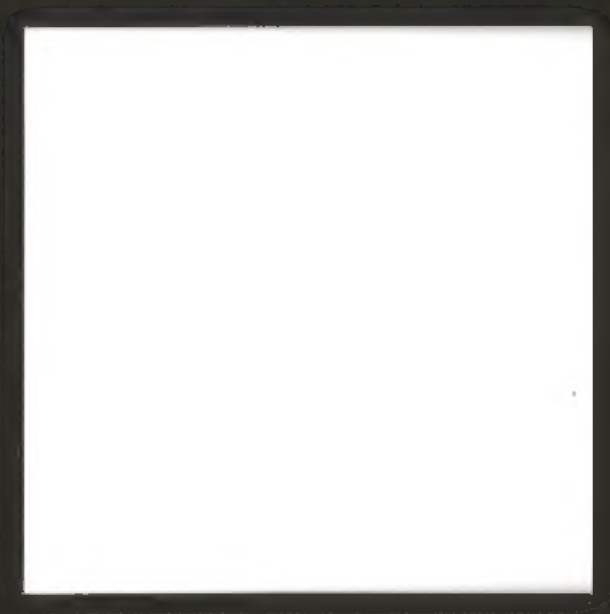


N E W J E R S E Y
Performing Arts Center



F I R S T
A N N I V E R S A R Y
G A L A



New Jersey Performing Arts Center

FIRST ANNIVERSARY GALA

October 24, 1998



*E*very great work of art has two faces,
one toward its own time
and one toward the future...

—Daniel Barenboim

NJPAC

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A MESSAGE FROM THE HONORABLE

Christine Todd Whitman

October 24, 1998

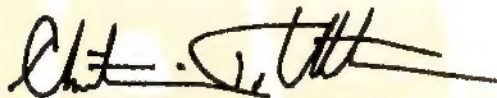
Dear Friends:

John and I are delighted to extend warm greetings to everyone attending this evening's First Anniversary Gala in celebration of an outstanding inaugural year for the New Jersey Performing Arts Center.

Clearly, the Arts Center's first season has drawn rave reviews, bringing the arts alive for a new and growing audience in the Garden State and for visitors from around the world. Boasting more than a half million in attendance and introducing more than 100,000 children to arts education, NJPAC stands as a model for other states eager to promote the arts and enhance the role of artistic and cultural expression in urban revitalization. Packed with audiences that reflect New Jersey's rich diversity, NJPAC has received overwhelming support from communities throughout the state, and I am pleased to offer my congratulations and thanks to all who have contributed to the remarkable success of this inaugural year.

Best wishes for a memorable evening.

Sincerely yours,



Christine Todd Whitman
Governor, State of New Jersey





A MESSAGE FROM THE HONORABLE

Sharpe James

October 24, 1998

Dear Friends:

Everything we hoped for and worked for is materializing.

The New Jersey Performing Arts Center's inaugural year has surpassed all expectations. Our performances attracted more than 500,000 patrons and our arts education programs introduced more than 100,000 children to the exciting world of performing arts. Major institutions and companies from around the region came to Newark to hold events at NJPAC, and the Theater Square Grill has become a popular dining destination.

The success of NJPAC has attracted major investors eager to have a stake in Newark's future. Development initiatives in the downtown area have been given a major boost, and new restaurants and retail establishments have opened. Soon, we will have a new home for the Newark Bears minor league baseball team, a rail link, and a waterfront esplanade. The artistic energy of the New Jersey Performing Arts Center has set off the wave of spiritual, commercial and physical development and growth that has fueled Newark's Renaissance.

I congratulate my colleagues on the NJPAC Board and everyone connected with the programming, management and operation of the Arts Center for a remarkable first year. The people who have worked behind-the-scenes at the Center to create the season's great productions are NJPAC's unsung stars. I also extend my best wishes to all the residents of Newark for continued success and enjoyment of the Center's programs.

All the best!

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sharpe James". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Sharpe James
Mayor, City of Newark, New Jersey

A MESSAGE FROM THE DINNER CHAIRMAN

John D. Zeglis

October 24, 1998

Dear Friends:

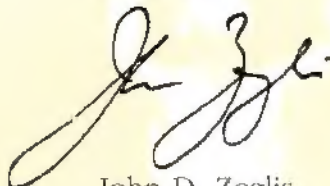
I am truly delighted to welcome you to the New Jersey Performing Arts Center's First Anniversary Gala.

This is a remarkable time for New Jersey and its people. Tonight we celebrate NJPAC's extraordinary achievements in the brief year since its opening. From over half-a-million individuals who filled Prudential Hall and Victoria Theater last year, to over 100,000 children, families and educators served through arts education programs, NJPAC's reach continues to exceed the boundaries of its walls.

At AT&T, we believe the cultural arts strengthen our nation's communities by promoting creativity and diversity. In this spirit, AT&T forged the first private partnership with the New Jersey Performing Arts Center and secured a place among its founding donors. As we look forward to the coming season, AT&T is proud to continue its support of NJPAC and its mission of excellence in performance and arts education.

Tonight we say "Bravo New Jersey!" Here's to a brilliant first season and an exciting journey that has just begun.

Sincerely,



John D. Zeglis
President, AT&T



A MESSAGE FROM THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY

Gala Committee



Audrey
Bartner



Veronica M.
Goldberg



Gabriella
Morris

October 24, 1998

Dear Friends:

Welcome to the First Anniversary Gala for the New Jersey Performing Arts Center!

This time last year, construction crews were putting the final touches on this magnificent complex so that by Opening Night, NJPAC was ready for the world. And, indeed, the world took notice. National and international media engaged in lofty discussions on the arts and its role in urban renewal, and heralded NJPAC as a model for audience diversity. Meanwhile, here at home, NJPAC simply became *the* destination for arts patrons across the state.

The Women's Board Association thinks of last October 18th and tonight as bookends on a truly remarkable year. With tonight's First Anniversary Gala and those in the years ahead, we hope to sustain the momentum of the Inaugural Season by launching each season with "a night unlike any other" — a first-class entertainment event that is also an essential building block of support for NJPAC's educational and artistic programming. NJPAC counts on us, the Women's Board, and we count on you to be a part of the magic.

NJPAC has taken on a life of its own, vaster than the sum of its parts. The Center has graduated from infancy and, like a child, grows more sure of its footing and more confident of its voice with each day. It is up to all of us to help NJPAC and to nurture it into the next century. Please know how much we deeply appreciate your continuing commitment to do so.

Enjoy the evening!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Audrey Bartner".

Audrey Bartner
Chair, Gala Committee

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Veronica M. Goldberg".

Veronica M. Goldberg
President, Women's Board Association

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gabriella Morris".

Gabriella Morris
Co-Chair, Gala Committee

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT AND C.E.O.

Lawrence P. Goldman

October 24, 1998

Dear Friends:

Only three hundred and seventy-one nights ago, after a gestation of a decade, the New Jersey Performing Arts Center was born.

There have been hundreds of thousands of words spoken and written since that moment, but none more poignant or satisfying than what someone said at the end of our first season: *"It seems like NJPAC has never not been here."*

For those of us who have been working on NJPAC for years—the Board, the management, the staff, and the designers—these were sweet words indeed. Why? Because we never sought to create a monument, a palace above the city, but rather an Arts Center that looked and felt right, that was comfortable, for Newark and New Jersey—an NJPAC that seemed like it *has never not been here*.

Yes, we aimed high: architecturally, acoustically, educationally, and programmatically. From sight lines to hors d'oeuvres, from symphony to Simone, we sought excellence.

Excellence, we believed, would overcome the obstacles, shatter the stereotypes, and, above all, attract audiences. And did the audiences ever come. NJPAC's first season results:

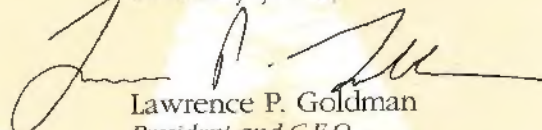
- Over 500,000 adults
- Over 100,000 children & their parents
- 16,000 subscriptions
- 357 performances
- 150 galas and special events
- 82% of capacity

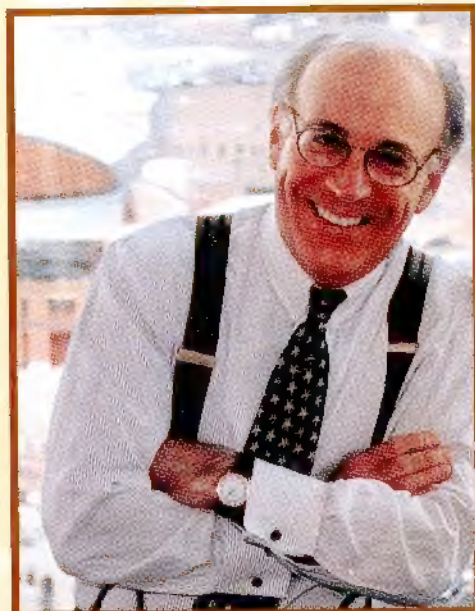
Not long ago, NJPAC was only a dream in the eyes of visionaries like Governor Kean, Ray Chambers, Roy Vagelos, Mort Pye, and Mayor James. What was once a few lines on a piece of paper is now a great civic place for all of New Jersey.

Thanks to all of you here tonight, and thousands more, NJPAC will continue to touch the hearts and minds of all who visit for decades, even centuries, to come.

Best wishes.

Sincerely yours,


Lawrence P. Goldman
President and C.E.O.,
New Jersey Performing Arts Center



Recently our staff and volunteers, over 200 people, met in the Victoria Theater to look each other in the eye and reflect on the incredible journey we had shared over the past year. Security guards, cleaners, stage-hands, accountants, educators, fundraisers, programmers, and our wonderful ushers.

Those gathered were asked to express how they felt about this year of years. Two stories stand out:

"I used to watch NJPAC under construction as a 16-year-old senior at University High School. I would pass by and say, 'I'm going to work there one day.' And now I do. I am so proud to be a part of NJPAC and the rebirth of this great city."

-Naima Nguvu,

Administrative Assistant to the
Vice President for Arts Education.

"I was born and raised in Newark, my children grew up here, and I was a Vice Principal in the city's school system for 40 years. Since NJPAC opened, I believe in this city again. NJPAC has given me, and my friends and neighbors, a new purpose, a reason to come downtown again. That's why I'm proud to be such an active volunteer here."

-Bernice C. Johnson,
NJPAC Volunteer



"4 out of 4 stars!" "Sensational!" "An unforgettable performance!"

Prudential Applauds The New Jersey Performing Arts Center For An Outstanding First Year!



OCTOBER 24, 1998

THE NJPAC WOMEN'S BOARD ASSOCIATION

PRESENTS

THE
FIRST ANNIVERSARY GALA

starring

Diana Ross



Sponsored by

Prudential

Co Sponsored by

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The taking of photographs and the use of recording devices are strictly prohibited
Please be sure to turn off all beepers, watch alarms and cellular phones



Diana Ross

In a remarkable career spanning over 30 years, Diana Ross has proven herself the consummate music artist and has earned a position as the most successful female singer of all time.

In the 1960s, as the lead singer of The Supremes, she achieved the unprecedented feat of fourteen consecutive number one hit records, rivaling The Beatles as the most successful recording act of that generation. Since 1970, when Ms. Ross embarked on a solo career, she has continued to perform sell-out concerts around the world and to produce an endless stream of hit records including *Touch Me in the Morning*, *Ain't No Mountain High Enough*, *Do You Know Where You're Going To?*, *Love Hangover*, *The Boss*, *Upside Down*, *I'm Coming Out*, *It's My Turn* and *Missing You*. Her repertoire has covered a wide range of popular music, including the works of such diverse and legendary writers as Sam Cooke, Jule Styne, and Rodgers & Hart. Ms. Ross has also shared recordings with Marvin Gaye, Michael Jackson and Julio Iglesias. One of her duets, *Endless Love* with Lionel Richie, topped the U.S. charts for nine weeks, one of the longest residencies at the top of the chart in the history of American music.

Her achievements of Ms. Ross do not lie solely within the music industry. When she made her film acting debut portraying Billie Holiday in 1972's *Lady Sings the Blues*, she displayed her extraordinary gift for jazz performance and won an Academy Award nomination as Best Actress. She also went on to star in the popular feature films *Mabogany* and *The Wiz*. Through her own company, Anaid Film

Productions, Inc., Ms. Ross has executive produced her last five television specials, among them *Diana in Central Park* and *Diana!*, for ABC, CBS, HBO and Showtime. Ms. Ross has also entered into a production deal with the ABC Television Network through which she will produce made-for-television films. Recently, Ms. Ross made her dramatic television debut in *Out of Darkness*, a project for which she also acted as producer. Her stunning and inspired portrayal of a woman's personal battle with schizophrenia aired on ABC television as part of that network's prestigious ABC Theater presentations. In 1992, Ms. Ross starred in a special pay-per-view television event, *Diana Ross Live...The Lady Sings*. For this unique special, shot live from New York City in an intimate, after-hours setting, Ms. Ross performed the jazz and blues music that remains close to her heart. That same year, she joined two of the world's greatest tenors, Jose Carreras and Placido Domingo, for a special Christmas concert televised around the world.

As a recording and concert artist, Diana Ross continues to break records and receive honors. In Japan, Ms. Ross is the biggest-selling foreign artist of the past two years. In Britain, she has been invited to headline a Royal Command Performance appearing in front of Her Majesty The Queen and has been recognized by *The Guinness Book of World Records* as the most successful female artist of all time with over 70 hit singles to date. Her most recent album released in the U.S., *One Woman: The Ultimate Collection*, has gone triple platinum. Ms. Ross recently received France's prestigious Commander in the Order of Arts and Letters, presented to her at the request of the country's Minister for Culture. An entire day of celebration during the recent International Musical Festival of Midem in Cannes was dedicated to Ms. Ross. Her most recent recordings include *Diana Ross Live*,

Stolen Moments and a new collection entitled *Take Me Higher*.

The past few years have proven to be exceptional for Ms. Ross as she celebrated 30 years of continuing success as a performing artist. A distinctive 30th Anniversary 4-CD commemorative set titled *Diana Ross: The Ultimate Collection* was released, and Random House published her long-awaited memoirs, *Secrets of a Sparrow*, authored by Ms. Ross herself. In the summer of 1995, she traveled to Russia where she made her historic first performances to two sold-out audiences at the Kremlin Palace in Moscow.

In her continuing commitment to helping children, Ms. Ross recently joined the Board of Directors of *A Better Chance*, the only national program that provides a wide variety of educational opportunities to academically talented children. The organization, based in Boston, is best known for assisting inner-city children in gaining access to the nation's top college preparatory schools. In addition, Ms. Ross is spokesperson for National Children's Day, an annual event during which children have the opportunity to share their hopes and concerns with America's leaders.

With an amazing capacity to combine varied interests and a seemingly tireless energy, Diana Ross continues to be a leading figure for each generation.



Evening's Credits

SHOW CREDITS

Kevin Chokan, *Musical Director/Guitar*
Keith Nelson, *Bass*
Lance Lee, *Drums*
Ron Powell, *Percussion*
George Svetich, *Piano/Keyboards*
Albert Wing, *Saxophone/EWI*
Walt Fowler, *Trumpet/Keyboard*
Anthony Bailey, *Backing Vocal*
Anthouney Bryant, *Backing Vocal*
Chuckee Bryant, *Backing Vocal*

Robin Lemon, *Tour Coordinator*
Peter Edmonds, *Production Manager*
Charles Rush, *Lighting Designer*
Danny Leake, *House Engineer*
Bill Deavers, *Monitor Engineer*
Michael Laing, *Guitar Technician*
Will Alexander, *Keyboard Technician*
Jack Richardson, *Carpenter*
Celeste Canfield, *Wardrobe*

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Ross Richards, *Production Manager*
Chad Spica, *Ass't Production Manager*
Ginny Bowers Coleman, *Ass't Production Manager*
Lauren Vivencio, *Production Coordinator*
Thomas Sherman, *Head Carpenter*
James Eisner, *Head Electrician*
Kevin Mochel, *Head of Audio*
Michel L. Cuillerier, *Ass't Head Carpenter*
Gary Edison, *Ass't Head Carpenter*
Francis Hankins, *Ass't Head Electrician*
Kenneth Pinckney, *Ass't Head Electrician*
Mark Leining, *Ass't Head of Audio*
David C. Perlman, *Banquet Production Coordinator*
Allison Wyss, *Artist Assistant*
Eunice Peterson, *Artist Assistant*
Damon Falzone, *Piano Tuner*

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Ursula Hartwig-Flint, *Coordinator of Donor Service*
Patrick Gaines, *Manager of Foundations and Special Projects*

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Leanne Davis, *Administrative Assistant*
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Amy M. Dixon, *Programming Associate*
Baraka Sele, *World Festival Producer*
Hisani Dubose, *Residency Coordinator/Programming Assistant*
Janice C. Lane, *Production Coordinator*
Elizabeth Minson, *Programming Assistant*

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Duchin/Thomas Events

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Jeffrey S. Norman, *Assistant Vice President, Public Relations*
Diane L. Lebron, *Director of Marketing*
Michael P. Scasserra, *Editor/Creative Associate*
Doris Ann Pezzolla, *Graphic Designer*
Michele Conte, *Program Designer*
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SALUTES

New Jersey Performing Arts Center



New Jersey Performing

T H E I N A U G

NJPAC garnered national attention, serving as a model for its programming and audience diversity, education initiatives, and its pivotal role in returning nightlife to the state's largest urban community. In its first eight months of operation, NJPAC attracted more than 500,000 patrons, representing approximately 82% of capacity. 26% (1 in 4) of all admissions to NJPAC opening season events were drawn from minority communities. Audiences came from throughout New Jersey, the metropolitan area, and beyond



NJPAC's Prudential Hall Lobby

Foundation. NJPAC also benefited from its official suppliers — Pepsi, Continental Airlines, and the Tri-State Mercedes-Benz Dealers.

Fulfilling an important component of its mission, NJPAC became a center stage for some of New Jersey's most prominent artists and arts organizations. Among the inaugural season highlights were American Repertory Ballet, Crossroads Theatre Company, George Street Playhouse, Nai-Ni Chen Dance Company, New Jersey State Opera, New Jersey

Tap Ensemble, Opera Festival of New Jersey, Peppermint Players, The Newark Boys Chorus, The Newark Jazz Festival, The Philharmonic Orchestra of New Jersey, Chamber Orchestra and Choir, Westfield Young Artists Cooperative Theater, Inc., and Youth Theater of New Jersey.



Nai-Ni Chen Dance Company

In its fifth year of providing service to New Jersey children and families, the NJPAC Arts Education Department hosted over 100,000 youngsters, parents and educators for its *SchoolTime*, *FamilyTime* and *Late Day* performance series. Among the signature programs reaching students throughout New Jersey were: Arts Academy, Early Learning Through the Arts, Youth Orchestra Festival (in conjunction with NJSO), *Jazz for Teens* (in conjunction with WBGO-FM), the NJPAC/United Way Partnership, and the Arts Basic to the Curriculum Conference. NJPAC now offers the most diverse selection of arts education programs in New Jersey, presenting more performances for children than any other New Jersey arts venue.

Over 150 corporations and non-profits rented NJPAC facilities to host a widely diverse array of special events during the 1997-98 season. The



Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater

The best performers from all over the world performed in Prudential Hall and Victoria Theater. Sold out performances included shows by Itzhak Perlman, Urban Bush Women, Jessye Norman, Boston Symphony Orchestra, Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, The Peking Acrobats, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater,

Bob Dylan, The Chieftains, and The Vienna Choir Boys, among many others.

Overall, NJPAC hosted 357 performances in eight months, including 135 regular performances, 100 Bell Atlantic *Passport to Culture SchoolTime* performances, 49 *FamilyTime* performances, and 73 rentals including the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra which celebrated its 75th anniversary by settling into its new home at NJPAC. Opening season performances and series were sponsored by AT&T, Amelior Foundation, American Express, Bell Atlantic, The CIT Group, Chase, First Union, Fleet Bank, A.T. Kearney, Mellon Private Asset Management, Merck, Merrill Lynch, PSE&G, Prudential, and the Victoria



New Jersey Symphony Orchestra



NJPAC Arts Education

Arts Center

U R A L Y E A R

events ran the gamut from the Essex Links Cotillion to the U.S.-Portugal Chamber of Commerce gala to the

PSE&G stockholders meeting to a masquerade ball hosted by the African American Heritage Parade Committee. Vice President Al Gore visited NJPAC in December of 1997. Mayor Sharpe James and the Newark Municipal Council took their oath of office in Prudential Hall in July. And on January 20, 1998, NJPAC hosted the inauguration of Governor Christine Todd Whitman, the first gubernatorial inauguration to be held outside of Trenton since 1932.



Inauguration of Governor Whitman

Theater Square Grill has become *the* place for lunch, pre-performance and post performance dining in the City of Newark, and was cited by *The New York Times* as one of New Jersey's "Ten Best." *The Star Ledger* concurred, adding that "the excitement of what is happening on stage at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center is matched by what's happening in the kitchen of its restaurant." Due to demand, the Grill is now open on non performance evenings



Theater Square Grill

Through the generosity of Allen and Joan Bildner and the Bildner Family Foundation, NJPAC has created a ticket subsidy fund to enhance audience diversity and make tickets readily available to those of limited economic circumstance. In NJPAC's first six months, subsidized tickets were distributed to over 6,000 people. Priced at \$5 each, tickets in all seating locations were allocated and distributed through social



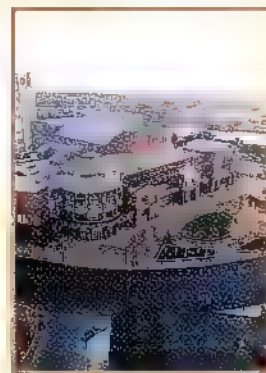
Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra

service organizations and educational institutions. Cited by Scott McVay, retired Executive Director of the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation as an "excellent example of programs that invite new audiences to enjoy cultural activities," NJPAC's *World Festival I. Portuguese Words and Ways* was a year-long celebration of culture from Portugal and Portuguese-speaking nations throughout the world. In partnership with the Government of Portugal and an advisory committee of business, educational and civic leaders from Newark's Ironbound section and beyond, *World Festival I* brought more than a dozen artists (including performers and companies from Brazil, Bahia, Mozambique, Cape Verde and Angola) to the NJPAC stages and into the community for in-school residencies, lectures, demonstrations, and cross-cultural alliances between Portuguese-speaking and American artists. NJPAC's second *World Festival*, entitled *Memory Work. Spirit: A Festival of Pan African America*, focuses on the Pan African enrichment of American culture.



National Song and Dance Company of Mozambique

The impact of NJPAC, one of a number of initiatives fueling Newark's re-emergence, is being cited by developers and business owners as a major impetus in their renewed interest in investing anew in the City. As cited in *The New York Times*, *The Star-Ledger*, *Crain's New York Business* and *Business News of New Jersey*, after years of stagnant growth, developers and tenants are taking a second look at downtown Newark, with office space fetching top dollar. Several historic buildings have been bought and are being renovated, a groundbreaking was held for a new minor league baseball stadium, property has been acquired between NJPAC and the City's universities to create a festive downtown destination point along the lines of South Beach in Miami or Playhouse Square in Cleveland, and Newark restaurants, hotels and other businesses are reporting increased business since the October 1997 opening of NJPAC.



NJPAC: The Inaugural season

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